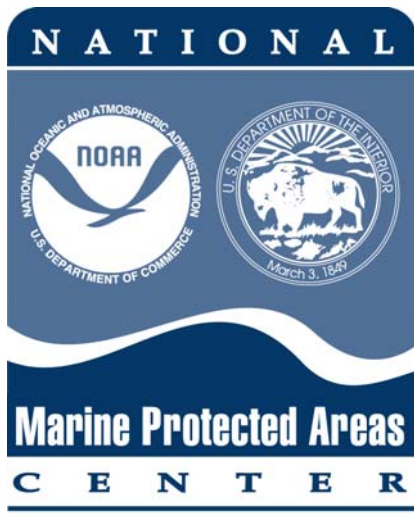


Progress on Executive Order 13158 on Marine Protected Areas



Presentation to:
Fishery Management Council Member Workshop
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Baltimore, Maryland

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For information go to: <http://www.mpa.gov>

MPA Executive Order 13158

Executive Order 13158 on Marine Protected Areas directs the federal agencies to:

- Strengthen the management, protection, and conservation of existing marine protected areas and establish new or expanded MPAs (Sec. 1(a))
- Develop a scientifically based, comprehensive national system of MPAs representing diverse U.S. marine ecosystems, and the Nation's natural and cultural resources (Sec. 1(b)) ... that supports and does not interfere with, agencies' (federal, state, territorial, tribal, local) independent exercise of their own existing authorities (Sec. 4(e))

MPA Executive Order 13158

Executive Order 13158 defines a marine protected area as:

“any area of the marine environment that has been reserved by federal, state, territorial, tribal, or local laws or regulations to provide lasting protection for part or all of the natural and cultural resources there.” Sec. 2(a)

Definition being further refined through an ongoing public process:

- “Marine Managed Areas” – Federal Register Notice
- MPA Federal Advisory Committee
- Public process to define “MPAs” for purpose of the “List of MPAs”

MPA Executive Order 13158

What does it NOT do?

- Does not designate any new sites.
- Does not create any new federal authorities.
- Does not change any state, local, or tribal authorities.
- Does not interfere with agencies' exercise of their own authorities.
- Does not focus only on “no-take” areas.

MPA Executive Order 13158

What does it do?

- Requires agency and public participation in plans and actions.
- Supports measuring effectiveness.
- Supports science-based design, management, and site support.
- Supports action by existing authorities.
- Creates the National MPA Center.

National Marine Protected Areas Center

Vision

- An effective, science-based, and collaborative national system of marine protected areas conserving marine ecosystems and cultural resources throughout the U.S.

Mission

- To facilitate the effective use of science, technology, training, and information in the planning, management, and evaluation of the nation's system of marine protected areas.

Goals of the National MPA Center

GOAL: Develop the Framework for the National System of MPAs

- Facilitate the design of a science-based national system of MPAs
- Incorporate continuous stakeholder input

GOAL: Improve MPA Stewardship and Effectiveness

- Enhance MPA stewardship by strengthening capacity for planning, management, and evaluation.

GOAL: Facilitate National and Regional Coordination of MPA Activities

National MPA Center Organization

Training & Technical Assistance Institute

Charleston, South Carolina
Ginger Hinchcliff, Director

- Technology and issue-based training and assistance
- Process training
- Needs assessments
- Understanding MPAs workshop
- MPA Effectiveness Workshop
- Decision-Support Tools

Headquarters

Silver Spring, Maryland
Joseph Uravitch, Director

- Intergovernmental coordination
- Advisory committee
- Communications/Outreach
- Education
- Inventory
- Website
- Library
- Program Management
- Program Policy

Science Institute

Monterey, California
Charles Wahle, Director

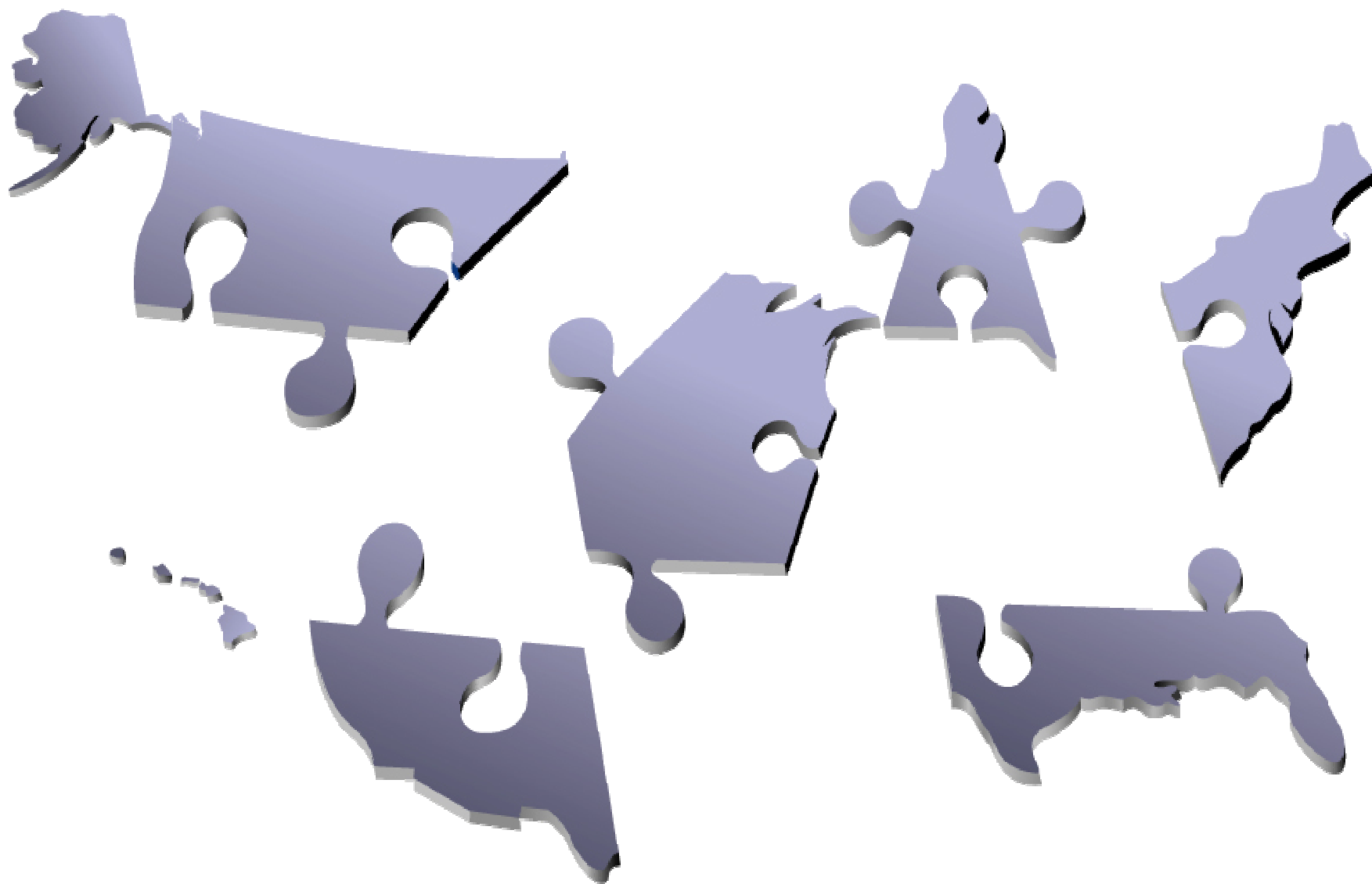
- National system framework
- Targeted research
- Workshops on MPA design and management
- Engage science community
- Threat & conflict assessments
- Natural and social science research strategies

National MPA Center Accomplishments

- **Publications (available at <http://www.mpa.gov>)**
 - Lessons Learned
 - Enforcement (in final development)
 - Stakeholder Participation Synthesis
 - Decision Support Tool Inventory
 - Case Studies
 - State Policies and Programs Related to Marine Managed Areas
 - MPA Social Science Research Strategy
 - MPA Needs Assessment
 - MPA Marine Technology Needs Assessment
 - Over 1,000 other publications through the “Virtual Library” on mpa.gov
 - MPA special edition of *Currents: The Journal of the National Marine Educators Association*

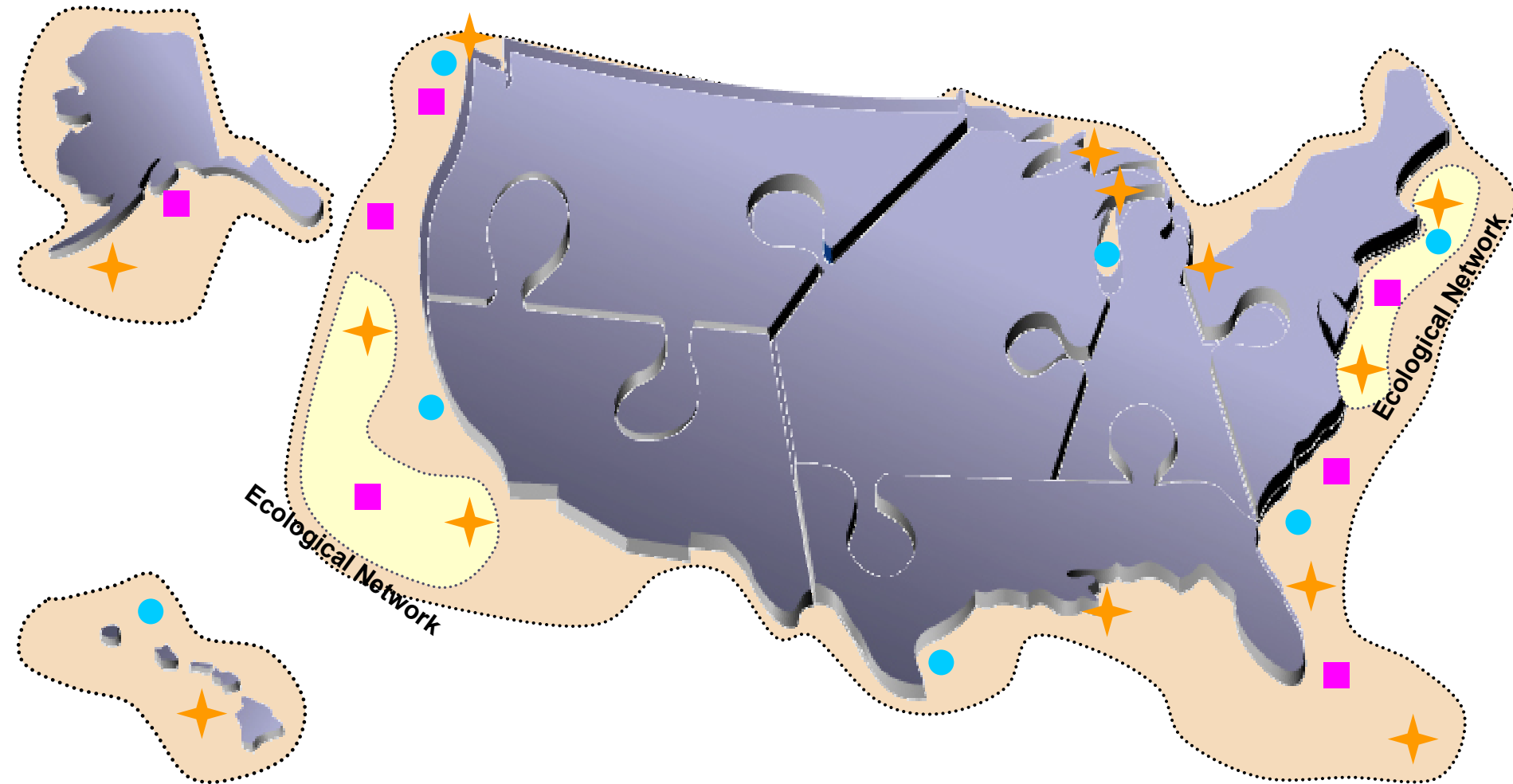
Upcoming MPA Center Projects

- **Developing the Framework for a National System of MPAs**
 - Planning, outreach & engagement (federal, state, tribal agencies, public)
 - Federal, state/territorial, and tribal portion of Inventory
 - Consistent information about the nation's natural and cultural resources
- **Improving MPA Stewardship and Effectiveness**
 - Expanded focus on helping programs evaluate MPA effectiveness
 - Support and training for stakeholder participation processes
 - Natural science strategy
- **Facilitating Coordination of Regional and National MPA Activities**
 - Development of web-based Regional Information Centers
 - Continue Support for MPA Federal Advisory Committee
 - Targeted support for regional MPA projects



A Conceptual Model of a National System of MPAs

for illustration only



Existing Sites

Enhanced

New Sites

Why does the U.S. need a National System of MPAs?

To Make Sense out of the Puzzle:

- Hundreds of federal, state, commonwealth, territory, and tribal MPA authorities in the U.S.
- Many MPA types and purposes
- Over 1,200 existing federal, state, commonwealth, territory, and tribal managed areas identified so far around the nation
- Lack of comprehensive planning to meet national and regional goals
- Lack of ecologically-based connectivity among MPAs
- No comprehensive mechanism for coordinating MPA efforts

What is the national system of MPAs?

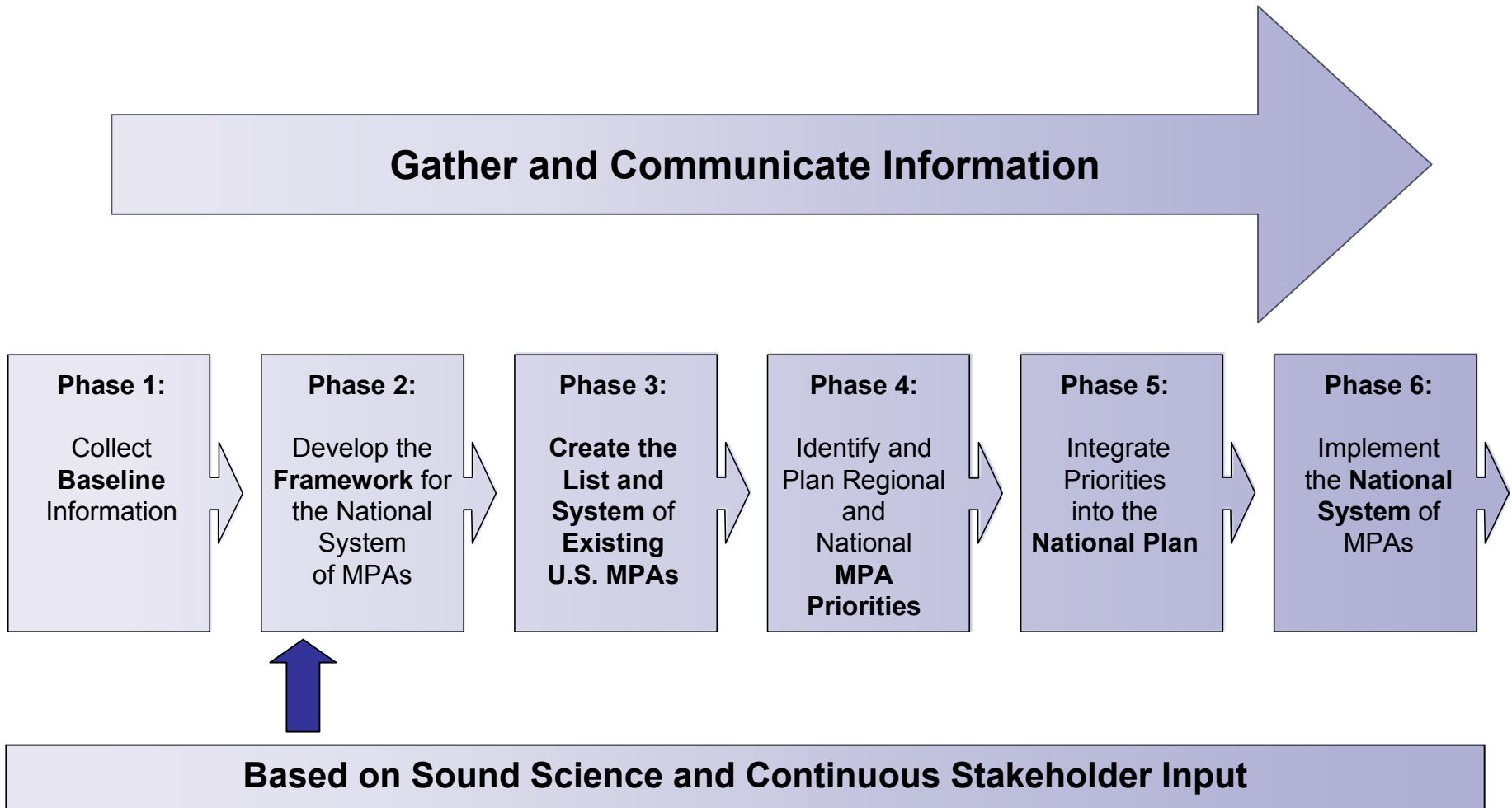
An evolving portfolio of existing, enhanced, and new MPA sites and MPA networks as needed that:

- Incorporates the best available science
- Represents diverse ecosystems from marine, coastal, estuarine, and Great Lakes waters
- Protects the nation's natural and cultural marine heritage, and ensures sustainable production of renewable marine resources
- Includes federal, state, commonwealth, territory, and tribal sites
- Incorporates input from agencies, users, and stakeholders to support the nation's broad natural and cultural marine conservation and management goals

What are the benefits of the national system of MPAs?

- Common MPA terminology and language – improved understanding
- Comprehensive conservation of nationally significant natural and cultural resources, regionally based
- Common criteria for designing and evaluating MPAs for national goals
- Scientifically-based networks designed for ecological connectivity
- Enhanced planning at the local, regional, and national level to identify conservation priorities
- Improved coordination among government agencies
- Sustained stakeholder engagement in and support for MPAs
- Framework for sharing of information

Development Process for the National System of MPAs



Questions?

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